Production of Aluminium at BALCO

4677. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:
SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the loss of production of aluminium at BALCO due to non-operation of plant after disinvestment; and

(b) how Government propose to deal with the hostile attitude of the Chhattisgarh Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) The loss of production of Aluminium at Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) due to non-operation of plant at Korba, after disinvestment is estimated to be Rs. 70 Crores upto 15th April, 2001.

(b) Efforts have been made by Government to explain the rationale and process of disinvestment. The Government has also mediated on BALCO strike with the trade unions and the representative of the State Government of Chhattisgarh.

New rail line from Dalli-Rajhara to Dantewara

†4678. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for laying of a new rail line from Dalli-Rajhara to Dantewara, *via* Baster, is under consideration, so as to connect Durg with Visakhapatnam;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.